GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2698
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
MALPRACTICE BY CABLE OPERATORS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a number of complaints regarding violation of the norms by the cable operators showing undesirable contents on television at the Local level;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, till date, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to empower the local grass-root mechanism to monitor the broadcasting codes under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act;

(d) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to set up State Level Monitoring Committee to monitor the programmes released and regulate the cable TV network;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which such steps of the Government is likely to regulate the cable television network?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b): As per Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, complaints against the local cable operators are dealt with by the authorised officer i.e. DM, SDM or Commissioner of Police who can take action against local TV channels or Cable operators violations under the Act. As such, the Government does not keep a record of such complaints, which are dealt with the State level.

(c) to (f) : Yes, Sir. As it was found that the enforcement of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in many parts of the country was not satisfactory, detailed guidelines indicating the specific roles and functions of District and State level committees have been issued vide order dated 19.2.2008, which is available on the website of the Ministry www.mib.nic.in . The enforcement of this Order will regulate the cable television network in the country to a great extent.